

Knight Foundation Fact Sheet

Knight Foundation supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts. We believe that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged.

Knight Foundation focuses on three areas:

1. Journalism and Media Innovation

Knight Foundation aims to help sustain democracy by leading journalism to its best possible future in the 21st century.

- **Media Innovation:** Since 2007, Knight has invested more than \$100 million in new technologies and techniques, including in more than 200 community news and information experiments. Its media innovation portfolio seeks to improve public media, discover new platforms for investigative reporting, increase digital and media literacy, promote universal broadband access and support a free and open Web.
- **Journalistic Excellence:** As the nation's leading journalism funder, Knight funding has supported training for more than 100,000 journalists worldwide, and has helped to transform journalism education with the college-level Carnegie-Knight Initiative, major fellowship programs at Stanford, Michigan and Harvard and 25 Knight Chairs with endowments of more than \$50 million.
- **Freedom of Expression:** The foundation helps safeguard the rights of journalists worldwide and supports public information campaigns about the value of freedom of information and open government.

The foundation has invested more than \$454 million in more than 1,000 journalism and media grants since 1950.

2. Engaged Communities:

To help sustain healthy communities in a democracy Knight fosters innovative national and local initiatives that develop in people a strong sense of belonging and caring, timely access to relevant information, the ability to understand that information and the motivation, opportunities and skills to take sustainable action on things that matter most to them.

- Knight Foundation fosters innovative approaches to increasing engagement skills in the community development field. The foundation funds programs that use technology to foster engagement. It supports individuals as agents for engagement, with a focus on youth leadership, social entrepreneurs and local institutions. Knight supports naturalization campaigns to increase the number of citizens who are highly motivated to engage with their communities.

- Part of Knight's activities focuses on 26 communities where the Knight brothers owned newspapers, with donor-advised programs in 18 and program director-led programs in the eight "resident Knight communities" (Akron, Ohio; Charlotte, N.C.; Detroit, Mich.; Macon, Ga.; Miami, Fla.; Philadelphia, Pa.; San Jose, Calif.; and St. Paul, Minn.).
- Knight experiments with innovative approaches to community engagement such as engaging community foundations nationwide in addressing community information needs, using community-wide social games to bring residents together, and partnering with local and national agencies to get more black males engaged in their communities.

The foundation has invested more than \$841 million in its communities program since 1950.

3. Fostering the Arts

Through its arts program, the foundation seeks to weave the arts into the fabric of the above-mentioned eight Knight communities to engage and inspire the people living in them. The foundation believes that the arts are a catalyst for public dialogue, and that shared cultural experiences contribute to a sense of place and communal identity.

- The foundation seeks innovative ways to reach, engage and increase audiences for the arts, including through the use of technology.
- Over a three-year period, the foundation is funding 1,000 "Random Acts of Culture" to bring artists out of the performance halls and into people's everyday lives.
- As a way to solicit fresh and innovative ideas, Knight Foundation launched community-wide contests in Miami and Philadelphia to seek out and fund the best ideas for the arts. Winners range from individual artists to large institutions.

The foundation has invested more than \$66 million in the arts over the last five years.



Knight Foundation integrates national strategic initiatives across all three focus areas, aiming for transformational impact through lasting and systemic change.

Knight Foundation surpassed \$1 billion in total grants midway through 2006. The foundation, headquartered in Miami, was established in 1950. Visit www.knightfoundation.org for more information.